

REMARKS

The present application includes pending claims 9-34, and 39-43. Claims 9-12, and 39 have been rejected. By this Amendment, claims 9, 13, 22, 23, 30, and 32 have been amended, as set forth above. Claims 13-34, and 40-43 have been allowed. The Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims define patentable subject matter, and request reconsideration of the rejection of claims 9-12, and 39.

Claims 9, 13, 22, 23, 30, and 32 were objected to. The Applicant has amended these claims, per the Examiner's suggestion.

Claims 9-12, 39 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over United States Patent No. 6,353,460 ("Sokawa") in view of United States Patent No. 5,528,283 ("Burton"). The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection, at least for the reasons set forth below and previously during prosecution.

The Examiner acknowledges that "Sokawa does not specifically disclose whether or not the bus has a different video standard than the input and output modules." *See* 2/23/2005 Office Action at page 4. Thus, if Burton does not teach this limitation, then the combination of Sokawa and Burton, by definition, also does not teach it.

The digital signals in Sokawa are not formatted to a bus standard. Both digital signals output from the A/D converters to the bus may represent video data with different video formats. *See* Sokawa at column 29, lines 43-45 ("a reproduced video signal having any of the 18 types of display formats is output from the ATV decoder..."). After passing through the bus, the image processor converts the video signals into a display format used by the display device. *See id.* at column 29, lines 49-52.

Sokawa does not teach, nor suggest, the use of an image processor between the input A/D converters and the bus to perform video format conversion. Sokawa discloses converting variously formatted signals to a display format **after** the bus and **before** the display device. Therefore, Sokawa does not teach, nor suggest, converting signals to a standard of the bus where all signals on the bus represent video data with the same video format. Consequently, Sokawa does not teach, nor suggest, converting various video signals with different video formats to a bus standard.

Likewise, Sokawa does not teach, nor suggest, a bus attached to the first and second input modules and having its own video standard. Consequently, Sokawa does not teach, nor suggest, converting a first input video signal from a first video standard to a third video standard, a second input video signal from a second video standard to the third video standard, and a bus attached to the first and second input modules and having the third video standard.

Burton presents a communication system for the distribution of switched video that can dynamically allocate video channels to subscribers using a pool of switched channel selector units. Buses carrying video signals at multiple frequencies are used to provide video channels to individual receiver units. *See* Burton at column 3, line 10 to column 4, line 30. An RF bus selector 60 connects an individual receiver unit to a selected bus. A tuner 62 is used to convert the desired video information signal to an intermediate frequency, for example, the frequency used by U.S. receivers. Burton discloses buses carrying video signals at multiple frequencies.

Burton does not, however, teach or suggest converting the format of signals to a video standard of the bus. Consequently, Burton does not teach, nor suggest, converting a first input video signal from a first video standard to a third video standard, a second input video signal from a second video standard to the third video standard, and a bus attached to the first and second input modules and having the third video standard.

As discussed above, Sokawa does not teach, nor suggest, converting various video signals with different video formats to a bus standard. Further, Burton does not teach, nor suggest, converting the format of signals to a video standard of the bus. Because neither of these references teach this limitation, the combination of the references, by definition, also does not teach, nor suggest, this limitation. Thus, at least for this reason, claims 9-12 and 39 should be in condition for allowance.

The Office Action also notes the following:

The applicant also argues that the examiner didn't provide references when taking the Official Notice. Applicant is directed to page 11 of the previous office action and the references, Opitek and Hayes, specifically cited there for that purpose.

See 2/23/2005 Office Action at page 7. The Applicant respectfully disagrees with this statement.

The previous Office Action includes numerous assertions of Official Notice without supporting references. *See* 5/10/2004 Office Action at, e.g., pages 8, 15, and 24. Further, there is no mention of Opitek or Hayes on page 11 of that Office Action. *See id.* at page 11. Rather, the Office Action lists Opitek and Hayes on page 28 as the "prior art made of record and not relied upon." *Id.* at page 28.

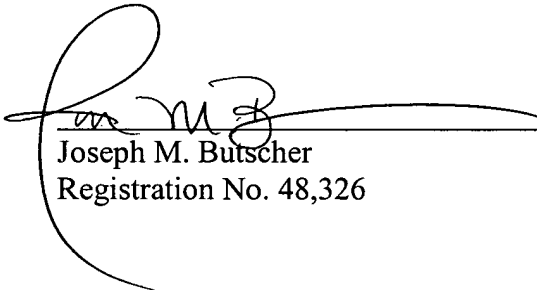
CONCLUSION

The Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims of the present application should be in condition for allowance. The Applicant looks forward to working with the Examiner to resolve any remaining issues in the application. If the Examiner has any questions or the Applicant can be of any assistance, the Examiner is invited and encouraged to contact the Applicant at the number below.

The Commissioner is also authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to the deposit account of GTC, account number 070845.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 11, 2005



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